

INDIA AND EELAM TAMILS CRISIS

A Factual Explanation



தமிழ் அகாடமி
Tamil Nadu Sahitya Akademi

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A factual explanation submitted with love and respect
to all Eelam Tamils



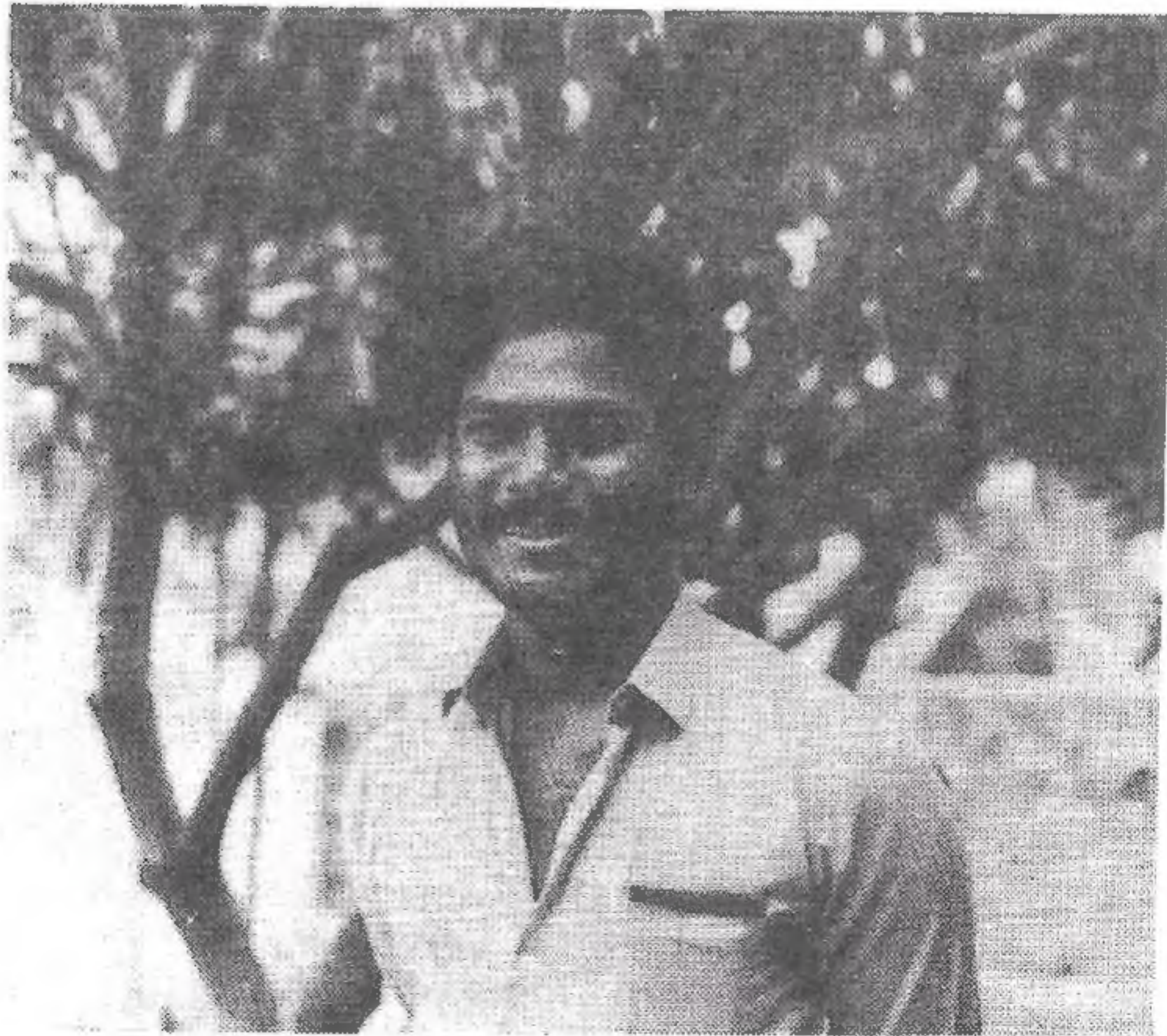
Political Committee
Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam



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WE DEDICATE

Liet.Col. Santhosam (Umainesan) was a member of the movement right from the beginning and has shared all it's sufferings and losses. He laboured untiringly for the growth of the movement and was responsible for organising and strengthening the movement in Trincomalee. Liet.Col. Santhosam launched many successful activities against Sinhala army. Such a hero died; while fighting against the Indian army that entered into our land under the cloak of Peace Keeping Force.



We are dedicating this book to that unconquereble hero, Liet.Col. Santhosam (Umainesan).



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The Jaffna peninsula, which we liberated from the Sinhala chauvinistic regime after 10 years of protracted battles involving invaluable sacrifices and immense difficulties, has now fallen into the hands of the Indian army's expansion mission. The traditional homeland of ours is now occupied by the Indian army, who are treating us as slaves. Colonial rule over Eelam Tamils which started some 500 years ago with the invasion by Portuguese and then followed up in succession by the Dutch, British, then by Sinhalese has now passed on to the Indians. Of these the latest one by Indians tantamounts to an outright betrayal. The Indians who came in with the pretext of bringing in Peace and Harmony, offering guarantee to the safety and security of Tamils and to establish a Homeland territory for us, has now turned into an army of occupation over our homeland and have meted out terror and oppression to our dismay.

Today there is the vile regime of Indian occupation army in the Tamil Eelam. Our people are being subjected to hitherto unknown degrees of torture. The atrocities meted out by India has far outweighed those by the sinhala troops. Why has India chose to do this to our people who have been from time immemorial Pro-Indians in the all aspects of Life ? Why did India launch this unholy war against us? Why does the government of India stand determined to wipe out the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) ? Why do Indian Government appear hell-bent to make us accept the Indo-Sri Lankan accord, and force feed us the Provincial council scheme which forms the essence of the accord ? What are the lapses in the Provincial council scheme ?

What are the main issues of contention between the LTTE and the Indian government ? What made, or rather forced the LTTE to confront the Indian troops ?

The sole aim of this memorandum is to answer the above mentioned queries and to explain our point of view to the people at large. As we are all aware, Indian Government is currently engaged in a broad based, well planned, multi- pronged mass media attack against us. After silencing the voice of Tamils ("Tamil Murasu" & "Murasoli" dailies published from Jaffna and "Nidharsanam" TV broadcast from Jaffna) in a clandestine manner, using their military might to keep international mediemen away from the scene, after enforcing a complete black out of news in collaboration with the Sri Lankan Government, India has launched the propagation of falsehood. By these false propaganda Indian Government is aiming to justify their war with our Liberation movement, trying to hold us responsible for all the sufferings meted out to our people by their military offensive and thereby hoping to alienate us from the masses. They are resorting to undemocratic, disgraceful means to project our movement as an anti-social element. We submit this explanation as a challenge to the false propaganda by the Indian Government.

First of all, we wish to brief you about the relationship and rapport we had with the Indian Government, how it got affected over the period of time and how the differences grew acute and how it ended up in direct confrontation.

The J.R. Jayewardene regime which came to power in 1977, pursued a much more aggressive policy towards the Tamils and also shaped up their foreign policy to openly align with the capitalistic regimes of the west. They thought by slipping away from the dominant grip of their neighbours in the Indian region,

and by becoming an obedient disciple of capitalist regimes of the west, they could not only prosper economically but also could carry on with the state sponsored genocide of Tamil Eelam. This new foreign policy of Sri Lankan regime worked out to be a threat to Indian supremacy and geo-political leadership in the region. The bloody ethnic conflict of July '83 and the subsequent attempts by Mr. J.R. Jeyewardene to seek help from the west perturbed India. India then decided to step into the Sri Lankan ethnic conflict.

This intervention was in the Diplomatic front in the open while it was underground and undeclared in the military front. India decided to conduct negotiations for peace at Colombo while giving military training and supply of arms to militant groups to step up armed struggle. This Indian intervention was not in the interest of the Eelam Tamils but with the ulterior motive of giving military pressure on to the Sri Lankan Government and force the Jeyewardene regime to bow down to diplomatic pressure and fall prey to the grand regional expansion design of the Indian Government. So, thus India decided to use the Tamil ethnic conflict to benefit and attain Regional Supremacy.

Late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi entrusted the responsibility of military training of the Tamil militants to the RAW (Research and Analysis Wing). High handed and independent actions by a few officers in the RAW resulted in the widening of gap between various groups among the militants and also prevented the formation of a disciplined national liberation movement. Also it made the militant groups to be completely dependent and almost made them to function as the slave army of the Indian Government. These machinations by the RAW contributed to the splitting of ways between the LTTE and RAW. We also wish to point out categorically that Mr. S. Chandrahasan was the per

son who helped RAW outright in these clandestine activities.

When RAW decided to provide military training to Tamil youths, two senior RAW officers Mr. Samy and Mr. Ravi Menon who were functioning in Tamil Nadu contacted Mr. Chandrahasan, who was friendly with them. In September 1983 Mr. Chandrahasan was informed of their plans to train Tamil youths and was entrusted with the responsibility of recommending the groups.

At that time LTTE was the only movement which was active in the Eelam front as a disciplined militant organisation and also enjoyed a wide spread support of the people. LTTE leader Mr. V. Prabhakaran and his commanders were actively participating in a number of heroic confrontations with the Sri Lankan army in Eelam. Then LTTE has expanded its military and political wings, arrangements were being made to set up local military training camps, number of international information branches were opened up and the LTTE has independently established itself as the front runner, while other groups were scattered and inactive, group leaders got displaced from Tamil Eelam and were in the safe haven of Tamil Nadu.

Mr. Chandrahasan, who was a spent-force by then in the Eelam political scene decided cunningly to avail this opportunity of the friendship with RAW officials and the Indian decisions to train Tamil youths to his advantage and attain the coveted political leadership of the Tamil people. He decided to boost up the groups which are loyal to him and who would propel him as the leader. Mr. Chandrahasan chose the TELO movement of Sri Sabaratnam as the ideal one to prop. At that time 'TELO' did not have any organisational set up, and was a small group of merely 6 men, and all of them were in Tamil Nadu.

Thus Chandrahasan's greed for power gave re-birth to the "TELO" movement

As this TELO Movement was void of any ideological leadership, RAW also accepted to prop them up in the hope that they could be moulded well to their sinister designs. What RAW wanted was a group without independent thinking and noble objectives, which could be transformed into their slave army comfortably.

Training of TELO youths got started. The July'83 ethnic conflict, and state sponsored chauvinistic actions have at that time frustrated the entire Tamil Community and lit up the freedom fire in their minds. The Tamil youths in great numbers who hated the sinhala regime were ready to take up armed struggle. TELO Movement made use of this revolutionary mood to gather members. No rule or code of discipline was followed in this mass gathering action. This prompted the inclusion of number of undesirable, anti-social elements with no commitment to the Eelam cause. Thus Chandrahasan succeeded in setting up a large slave force under the leadership of Sri Sabaratnam. In the meantime the Eelam People Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) and Eelam Revolutionary Students Organisation (EROS) groups also submitted themselves to Mr. Chandrahasan and got admission to the training programme.

This Indian action had an undesirable effect on the natural growth of the freedom movements and seriously hampered the revolutionary nature of the freedom struggle. The military strength and the number strength of the movements were thoroughly changed. This unnatural bloating of strength proved detrimental to the noble cause. The rise in number of undisciplined armed gangs resulted in meteoric rise in atrocities.

The worst affected party by this Indian intervention was the LTTE.

Mr. Chandrahasan schemed out to displace the LTTE from the freedom struggle scene and attempted to form a union of armed groups under the TELO leadership. Mr. Chandrahasan knew very well that neither Mr. Prabhakaran nor the LTTE members are ever going to accept him as the leader of Eelam Tamils. Mr. Chandrahasan judged that the inherent qualities of the LTTE such as honesty, integrity, commitment to the cause and firm adherence to the policies are not helpful for his clandestine power manoeuvres. Mr. Chandrahasan took all the possible steps to keep away LTTE from the Indian military training programme and also schemed to eliminate the LTTE with the help of TELO. Our point of view was very clear. We never wanted to get trapped in Chandrahasan's manoeuvres and nor were ready to become the slave army of India. At the same time we were concerned about other misguided groups growing in military strength and also were worried about the possibilities of our group getting destroyed by them. We earnestly felt, that would be the end of the freedom movement in Eelam. Therefore when we were approached by the Indian government lately and proposed to give a limited scope training, we accepted. We got the limited help. Any how on our own initiative we set up a number of training camps and enhanced our military strength. Without depending on Indian sources, we gathered substantial arms might through our own resources. Thus we rose to a formidable position to meet the challenge posed by RAW and Mr. Chandrahasan.

In the meantime, Mr. Chandrahasan promoted a union by the name Eelam National Liberation Front (ENLF) among the three groups TELO, EPRLF and EROS. He also tried to keep away

LTTE and bring in Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) and Peoples Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) and other liberation groups into the three groups alliance of ENLF and set up a Eelam Tamils National council and capture the leadership of the council. Negotiations took place in Madras. RAW also played a keen role in the background. Some Tamil expatriates in USA also contributed towards the formation of this council and tried to crown Mr.Chandrasahsan at the apex.

We decided to shatter the above political chess game, pawning the Tamil freedom fighters, also to thwart the attempts by the agents of American imperialists to inject their influence into the freedom struggle, and decided to regroup the freedom fighters under a disciplined leadership, not dependent on the Indian Government for the stepping up of our liberation struggle. Therefore for a brief period we collaborated with the ENLF movement and tried our best to promote goodwill and understanding. We pointed out to them the clandestine connections of Mr. Chandrasahsan and persuaded other leaders to come out of the grip of imperialistic stooges and to take our struggle in a socialistic revolutionary line. But as TELO and EPRLF being dependent on Mr. Chandrasahsan for the political ideas and also funds, differences surfaced between them and our group. RAW and Mr. Chandrasahsan wanted to see that no working alliance could blossom between us and any other group. During this period the atrocities and anti-social attitude of TELO members in Tamil Eelam pushed the people to the limit of tolerance. Members of LTTE and civilians were harassed on several occasions by the TELO youths. Our request to the TELO leadership to curtail such activities fell on deaf ears. RAW officials also pulled strings here and there to start an LTTE-TELO clash.

Having not realized the cunning motive of RAW, the TELO launched an attack on our cadres. TELO leadership miscalculated that, as the Indian Government is with them, they could eliminate us easily. But with our far superior combat ability and more so with the unfailing support of people who were by then disgusted of the negative actions of TELO youths we managed to disarm the TELO in a matter of few days. Having programmed otherwise RAW got disappointed at our victory and thus the problems between LTTE and RAW became more acute

RAW organisation constitutes an important part of Indian Government and it reflects the foreign policy of India. By virtue of ordinance RAW functioned directly under the Prime Minister and was in effect the stinger weapon of Indian Government. Therefore we have to interpret the actions of RAW as that of Indian Political leadership. Anyhow some of the high officials of RAW functioned independently and a few even played into the hands of C.I.A. and committed grave acts of treason. Mr. Unnikrishnan who was incharge of RAW in Tamil Nadu was responsible for the coordination of the activities of various Tamil groups. But Mr. Unnikrishnan was passing on vital information to Sri Lanka such as the type of training and arms given to the Tamil militants. Relative strengths of each group, strategic plans etc. were progressively passed on to the Sri Lankan Government. Based on these information Sri Lankan government formulated strategic attacks against the LTTE. Only a few months back, Mr. unnikrishnan was apprehended as a CIA agent by the Indian Government and is now serving a life imprisonment without trial.

We always wanted to strengthen our association with the Indian Government and function as a loyal ally of India. India is a great power in South Asia Region. We are well aware that

India has geo-political interest in the Indian Ocean and also in Sri Lanka which occupies a strategic location. We are ready to honour the Indian concept of Regional Supremacy. Under these circumstances, it is disturbing to note that Indian Government has judged us to be anti national and have decided to eliminate us.

LTTE symbolizes the aspirations of the Tamils of Eelam and is a freedom movement which is not prepared to sacrifice their noble ideals, come what may. We have firm policies on the fundamental needs and aspirations of Tamils such as Traditional Homeland, Sovereignty and rights of Self determination. But unfortunately India does not care about the aspirations of the Tamils to live as one nation on our traditional motherland territory. On the other hand India even opposes these minimum requirements. India is all out to deny the right of self determination, right to live as one unit to pursue the federal set up. Indian aim is to seek a limited concessional rights to Tamils under the unitary constitution of Sri Lanka. In other words, India wants to protect the interests of the Sinhala chauvinism. By this India hoped that it could secure their geo political interests and regional supremacy. This policy formed the root cause of the contention between Indian Government and LTTE.

India did not want the ethnic conflict of Eelam getting transformed into a national liberation struggle and the growth and consolidation of a National Liberation Movement. The phenomenal rise of LTTE in this path was not to India's like. In order to curtail our growth and weaken our movement only, they promoted and projected other groups militarily. Unaware of these machinations by India other brothers in arms, resorted to be the slave army of India and even were ready to confront and eliminate us. Disarming of TELO by LTTE gave a rude shock

to India at this juncture. Still hoping to pursue their mission to eliminate LTTE with the help of another brother Eelam Liberation movement,¹ India supplied a lot of modern weapons to EPRLF group and promoted them. India's action of promoting and fostering, inter-group warfare had another aim as well. By intensifying the propaganda that the Eelam liberation groups have bitter rivalry, they were hoping to discredit the very liberation motive in the minds of Eelam Tamils and frustrate them. Thus India also gave a wide publicity to inter-group rivalry.

The EPRLF group after receiving substantial quantity of arms and ammunition from the RAW decided to launch a massive attack and eliminate us. Having come to know of this clandestine mission through reliable sources with evidences, we launched an attack beforehand and disarmed them. As a result LTTE became the sole and powerful freedom movement in the Eelam and got a whole hearted broad based support from the people. While winning over the clandestine attempts by RAW to eliminate us, we also carried out a number of successful attacks against the Sinhala troops and safeguarded the interests of Eelam Tamils. Admiring our bravery, discipline and unfailing commitment to the cause of Eelam, the people of Eelam showered us with support and enthusiasm. Obviously the growth of LTTE as a People's movement did not please India and they awaited an opportune moment to destroy us.

During January 1987, Sri Lankan Government declared an Economic embargo and simultaneously carried out a massive military onslaught to the North and the East. 20,000 troops were amassed in the North alone. They were bravely confronted by our guerilla fighters at various fronts. Despite a shortage of arms and ammunitions, we kept at bay the Sinhalese troops. By shelling, mortar attacks and indiscriminate aerial strafing hundreds

of innocent people were getting killed and colossal damage done to properties. At this juncture we appealed to the government of India for the supply of arms and ammunitions. We pointed out that the total destruction and genocide is on an I sought their help at that critical moment, and made repeated requests for help. While the government of India dragged on and told us that they are analysing our request, Mr. Unnikrishnan of RAW passed on the vital military information of ourselves (LTTE) running short of ammunitions to the Government of Sri Lanka. Aimed with this vital field information, Sri Lankans intensified their attack and strategically planned their onslaught on Jaffna. It was disgusting that while dragging their feet at this moment of grave need to help our group at the battle fields, Indian Government supplied arms and ammunition to other misguided groups which were idling in Tamil Nadu. This mischievous act by India shattered the trust we had in them, and clearly indicated their goals and values.

India never wanted the LTTE to emerge as an even more powerful group and defeat the Sri Lankan aggression. In fact India wanted the LTTE to get defeated in the hands of the Sri Lankan troops, get weakened militarily and also desired to have a situation wherein our movement will become too weak to protect our people and would lose the popular support. When this situation sets in, India wanted to step in militarily in the pretext of saving the interests of Tamils.

In the meantime they also threatened Sri Lanka with dire consequences. They told Mr. Jayewardene that they are going to supply modern weapons including anti-air craft guns to the LTTE and would defeat the Sri Lankan troops militarily. India also told clearly that despite the induction of foreign military advice and help they will see to that Sri Lanka gets defeated. They pur

Indo Sri Lanka accord or more appropriately the Rajiv-Jayewardene accord has not met the interests or political aspirations of the people of Tamil Eelam. Instead this accord has paved the way for the Tamils to continue to get suppressed as second class citizens by the Sinhala chauvinists. There are two important provisions in this accord.

- 1 Indo-Sri Lankan external affairs relationship.
2. Solution to the ethnic grievances of the Tamils.

India is undoubtedly a great power in the South Asia region. We do not want to stand in the way of India establishing good relations with its neighbours, ensuing the stability of her, or securing the regional safety and ensuing peace. We also support the extradition of all the foreign military elements which came into Sri Lanka. We also welcome the Indian ocean being declared a peace zone. What we vehemently object is that, this accord is not only meeting the geo political and commercial interests of India but is also going beyond to strengthen the Sinhala chauvinistic undemocratic regime of Mr. Jayewardene. In other words, this accord has gone beyond the Indo-Sri Lankan external affairs relationship and is trying to force an entry of India into the internal problem of Sri Lanka and force an unjust solution to the ethnic problem of Tamils. India without seeking the mandate from either the Tamils or the Sinhalese, have entered into this accord with the Jayewardene government which was not elected to power in a proper democratic election. Therefore this accord tantamounts to something forced on the Sinhalese and Tamils of Sri Lanka. As far as Tamils of Eelam are concerned this accord fails to meet the fundamental political aspirations of them.

This accord fails to recognize the Tamils of Eelam as a nation and categorises us only as ethnic group in a multiracial set up.

This accord does not recognize the right of self determination of the Eelam Tamils. On the other hand emphasises the unitary nature of Sri Lanka constitution and regional solidarity.

This accord does not identify the traditional homeland of Tamils and the right of unification of all Eelam Tamils into one nation. This only speaks of a temporary marriage of North and the East, however contains the dangerous provisions to cut off the East by a referendum. Therefore this pact is drawn up without meeting the fundamental rights, aspirations while contains the dangerous mischievous provision to disintegrate Tamil Nation.

Further, this accord propels the Provincial council scheme as the solution for our grievances. The loopholes in the Provincial council scheme and a detailed account of where and how it falls short of our minimum demand has been published by LTTE earlier, wherein we have categorically rejected Provincial councils as an acceptable solution.

Mainly we pointed out that the Provincial councils scheme, gives unreasonably wide-ranging powers to the President which included dissolution of provincial councils after declaring emergency. Also pointed out was that power of Law making and Execution held by the National Parliament was overriding that of the Provincial councils. As the provincial police force has been placed under National police commission, we pointed out that the Law and order power of the proposed provincial councils in traditional Tamil areas were not stipulated firmly, and the right of the Provincial councils to evict illegal colonisation by outsiders was not mentioned.

On the whole we stated clearly that the provincial council scheme fell far short of the aspirations, interests, welfare and security of the Tamils and rejected the same out right. TULF was responsible for carrying out shuttling negotiations between New Delhi and Colombo and formulating, legal drafting the Provincial council bill. Even at recent past they have negotiated for some shortfall in this provincial Council set up. Now very lately they have stated that the provincial council scheme as it stands cannot be accepted. By supporting the Indo-Sri Lanka pact on one hand and by rejecting the Provincial Council draft which forms the essence of the accord, TULF is playing a double game of political betrayal. Our people must understand this game and its implications. The short-sighted, opportunistic, selfish politics has been our curse and the reason for the miserable status of Eelam Tamils.

We have rejected the Indo-Sri Lanka accord because it fails to meet the minimum aspiration of our people. We love our people, their welfare is our concern. As we are sure that this accord will not give us the permanent solution to the ethnic problems, we have taken the stand to reject the accord. What is wrong in our decision?

Don't we have the democratic right to express our opinion on the fundamental demands of our people? Aren't there Freedom of expression for us?

Why India, which claims to be the greatest democracy, and a Gandhian nation, is denying us the democratic right and Freedom of expression?

Our movement was subjected to heavy pressure and intimidation. Finally a full scale war is launched against us. India has

meted out military offensive and arms might. Is it justice of "BHARATH" type? Is it "Bharath" democracy?

India did not do justice to us in our crisis. India did not practice democratic norms and cherish the human senses of love and compassion. On the other hand like a military super power is forcing us with, atrocities, audacities and treating us like outsiders, by unleashing murders, torture, rape to militarily suppress us.

Indian unholy military offensive does not concern merely the disarming of the LTTE. If this is the case they must not expand their war to the innocent civilians population. This is certainly a well-planned war against the people of Tamil Eelam, aimed at intimidating them at gunpoint and crush the freedom movement and make the Tamils of Eelam to be permanent slaves of Mr. Jayewardene.

Ever since stepping into our land in the pretext of Peace Keeping, India was waiting for the opportunity to start a war with LTTE and take over North and East. It must be recalled that when India came into our land they brought in huge quantities of arms, ammunition and heavy artillery and vehicles needed for a full fledged war. What was the need for all these had they come in for peace keeping?

India staged a number of puppet shows such as Interim Government, Tamil police force, Provincial government and permanent peace and dignity, which were only diplomatic manouevres aimed at hoodwinking the Tamils. If they had the genuine intension to hand over interim government to LTTE, what was the reason behind India's arming of other militant groups and bringing them over to Sri Lanka and set up clashes

with our movement?

After substantial quantity of arms were handed over by LTTE, why did the Indian Government go back on their assurance to establish the Interim Government and why did they allow Sinhala colonisation and the setting up a Sinhala Government police force in the North and East? In order to bring to light lapses on the part of India Mr. Thileepan started a fast unto death. Thileepan's fast brought about a wide spread mass awakening among our people. It was unfortunate that Indian Government ridiculed this Gandhian mode of expressing the grievances of our people, and as a result of their lethargy, ^{Mr.}Thileepan attained martyrdom. Had India cared for the welfare of Tamils or had even got the minimum respect for our concerted feelings the valuable life of Mr. Thileepan could have been saved. What was the underlying motive of India in allowing our regional commanders Mr. Pulendran and Mr. Kumarappa and other senior members to die? That mass suicide which shook the Tamil people of our land and also the international community at large could have been avoided had India wished so. It is a mischievous propaganda for Indians to claim that we the LTTE started the war.

Mr. Pulendran, our Trincomalee area commander and Mr. Kumarappa, former commander of Batticaloa were two most respected leaders and saviours of our people of the Eastern province. Their unfortunate and miserable death resulted in a spontaneous outburst of violence in the East and resulted in the death of around 100 Sinhalese people. India picked the incident as an excuse to step in and take action against LTTE. But, as a result of this military offensive by India How many Tamils have lost their lives? How many got crippled and injured? How many lost their homes and got displaced? Has India chosen to satisfy

the Sinhala chauvinistic demon by the blood spilt by the Tamils?

In this war which started on the October 10th, 1987, Indian army has acted in a brutal manner with no concern about the lives of innocent civilians. By spraying mortar shells and conducting ariel bombing indiscriminately over civilian areas under continuous and indefinite curfew, the Indian army has massacred a number of innocent civilians, even outclassing the Sinhala Sri Lankan counterparts in this genocidal mission. Tamil women have been raped, and Indian army has engaged in arson and looting. They have even carried out their killing spree to hospitals where doctors, paramedical staff and over hundreds of patients also have fallen victims. There are incidences of shell attack by Indian army on refugee camps and places of worship. Over a 100 civilians have been brutally murdered. Multiples of that have got injured and many died because of the non availability of medical staff, medicines or transport facilities.

This military offensive certainly is not aimed at disarming the Tigers, but is an unjust multi pronged war against a nation. India hopes to intimidate the people of Tamil Eelam by this worst forms of atrocities and keep us under their control.

Along with the military action, a full scale economic war is also launched against our people by the Government of India. Stoppage of power supply, water supply, transport, fishing are to mention a few. By disturbing our economic and social existence India is inflicting torture on to our people who have already gone through untold hardships in the hands of Sinhala troops. What is the reason for these cruel actions of Indian Government?

1. By subjecting the people to military offensive for a prolonged period psychologically frighten them, and frustrate them,

by thus making the people get fed up with the militants and continuation of war. By this alienate the militants from the people and create the opportunity and encourage people to help in the apprehension of the militants.

2. By subjecting the people to economic warfare and push them to the brink of starvation and poverty, blame the militants for all the hardships of the people and make the people turn against the militants. By offering some relief measures and provisions attract the people towards them.
3. Cut off and disrupt all the communications links the militants have with the masses, and start a well planned propaganda war against the militants. By confusing the masses by this propaganda, make them to revolt against the militants.

Indian Government is also adopting the same measures against us. Therefore we earnestly request our people to be alert and careful about these destruction forces.

Message to our dear people of Tamil Eelam

Indian government wants us to surrender and hand over the arms. They want us to accept the Indo-Sri Lanka accord in total, in spirit and in words. They also expect us to join the political stream in a democratic way. Let India put forward all these conditions in a peaceful and friendly manner. Let them spell out the same with goodwill and humanitarian sense. But Indian troops have made our Jaffna into a ghost city, and shouting this over the tombs of the Tamilians. They are trying to intimidate us by military offensive and make us bow down.

We are not blood thirsty fanatics who have fallen in love with

the guns. We are not even terrorists with the killer instinct. We are for peace. We are for the peaceful existence of our people in the traditional homelands with dignity, sovereignty and self respect.

We took to arms to win over the freedom and the lost democratic rights of our people. We are fighting for the past 10 years for the same noble objectives. Over 1000 of our freedom fighters have given their lives for the same objective. We have done great sacrifices, created legendary heroic acts at the war-front. The history of LTTE is that of the liberation struggle of the oppressed people of our land and nothing else. Indian government is trying to bring an abrupt end to this and expect us surrender. We never wanted to fight with the might of Indian army, nor to go against India in anyway. We are ready to lay down arms, if that will bring permanent peace to our people. If that will help to make our people live in safety, security in our homeland with our self respect intact?

We are ready to lay down our arms. But what is the solution proposed or put forward for meeting the minimum demands of our people. Will the provincial councils satisfy the aspirations of our people? If not what is the future prospects of our people in the times to come? Please analyse these proposals and effects of the same.

After 40 years of struggle, after spilling a lot of sweat and blood, after all other forms of struggles have failed to take us even near a solution, we have built up this militant movement with the sole aim of winning back our legitimate rights and self respect. It is disgusting to note that Indian government is attempting to bury all this within just 40 days.

We are ready to lay down our arms but will it tantamount to surrendering of our people and giving up our fundamental rights for ever?

Even in the past, trusting on the promises of Indian Government, we have handed over sizable lot of arms. While doing so we also clearly and publicly indicated that India along with the arms should take over the responsibility of safeguarding the life and interests of our people. Did the government of India accomplish this moral responsibility? Did they protect our people and treat them in a humanitarian way? No! Never! On the other hand resorted to killing and torturing our people. They humiliated our people by unleashing many forms of atrocities. By committing acts of rape against our women has razed our dignity to the lowest levels.

We are ready to lay down the arms. But what is the guarantee for the safety and security of our people? Will the Indian army stop its atrocities? Will it allow our people to live in peace? Will it stop interfering with our politico-social life and civil administration? Will it stop organising political platforms for anti social elements and betrayers of the nation? Will it stop intimidation by arresting, torturing and detaining of our cadres?

Why is the government of India hell-bent to take the arms held by us? Is it for the purpose of bringing back peace and harmony to our people. Is it to bring about peace and normalcy to Tamil Eelam? No; never! But to satisfy Mr. Jayewardene and his chauvinistic regime and nothing else.

As per the Indo-Sri Lanka accord, the Tamil freedom fighters must be dis-armed or destroyed. That is why Mr. J.R. Jayewardene signed the pact. That is precisely why India has launched a full scale war against us.

We are ready to lay down our arms - but the guarantee for our people must be proclaimed publicly. All steps must be taken to ensure our people to live with freedom, dignity and peace. Indian Government must stop all military actions forthwith and stop hunting the tigers and taking our arms, instead must look forward to provide a life with permanent peace to our people.

Oh! our beloved people of Tamil Eelam! If we surrender to-day to the military actions of India, we would also be compelled to be the slaves of Jayewardene regime. All our struggles over the years and sacrifices would become meaningless. All our sacrifices and sufferings and commitments would become stories penned on sea water.

Our noble freedom struggle in the legendary traditions of our heroic Tamil ancestors would become a spent-force. If we surrender now, the coming generations are not going to pardon us. We should not be afraid of or co-operate with the Indian army unconditionally.

India is an alien nation. We cannot tolerate and permit a foreign force to descend on us and rule us. This action by India is also violating the traditions and justice of International Community. Even in India a massive peoples movement is gathering momentum protesting against the military actions and atrocities of Indian army.

India is enforcing a total black-out of all the acts of brutalities committed here to the rest of the world. By twisting stories and propagating blatant lies they are deceiving the conscience of the world. But as proved many a times over, it is not possible to bury the truth, justice and fair thinking permanently for any one however mighty they are. One day sooner or later the truth will emerge breaking away the tomb where it is buried. Then

We are ready to lay down our arms - but the guarantee for our people must be proclaimed publicly. All steps must be taken to ensure our people to live with freedom, dignity and peace. Indian Government must stop all military actions forthwith and stop hunting the tigers and taking our arms, instead must look forward to provide a life with permanent peace to our people.

Oh! our beloved people of Tamil Eelam! If we surrender today to the military actions of India, we would also be compelled to be the slaves of Jayewardene regime. All our struggles over the years and sacrifices would become meaningless. All our sacrifices and sufferings and commitments would become stories penned on sea water.

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India has to face the conscience of the world. That would be the day for us to see the beacon of light. Until that day we will continue to fight for truth and justice.

Oh! our dear people of Tamil Eelam: In a fight of justice and fairplay, no great power can ever conquer the people who are honest, firm and deeply committed to the cause. This is a bold historical truth. Our people of Tamil Eelam should teach this truthful lesson to the Indian Government

Political Committee
Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam

THE GREAT MARTYRS

Heroes do not die. Their noble ambitions, aspirations and selfless devotion to the cause become the guiding light to their fellow comrades. These great martyrs fought many victorious battles, in the struggle for Tamil Eelam. And to expose the betrayal of India and its partisan attitudes to the whole world, they gave their very lives, thus becoming the "Lodestars" of Tamil Eelam.



Liet.Col. Thileepan (Partheepan)

Lt.Col. Thileepan was in charge of the movement's political wing in Jaffna; but he involved himself directly in many battle fields where the movement met the SriLanka army. In one such war at Vadamaratchi a bullet pierced through his abdomen and part of his intestine had to be cut off and removed in a surgical operation.

The LTTE could conduct a number of massive processions, public meetings and picketings because of the organising capacity of Thileepan, who had the tremendous ability to mobilise people in short notices. He volunteered for the "fast unto death" and by his historical death exposed to the whole world the biased and partisan behaviour of the Indian Government.

Liet.Col. Kumarappa (Ratnabala)

A senior member of the movement, Liet.Col. Kumarappa, participated in all the attacks launched by LTTE on the Sri Lankan police stations. When he was in charge of Batticalao District the military and political services he rendered there especially amidst the Tamils muslims on behalf of the movement enabled the movement in Batticalao region, to grow.

When thousands of Sri Lankan army men rounded up the camp where Kumarappa was staying, he attacked them, killed 60 of the army men, destroyed many armoured vehicles, broke Sinhala army round-up and came out with all his men unhurt.



Liet. Col. Kumarappa (Ratnabala)



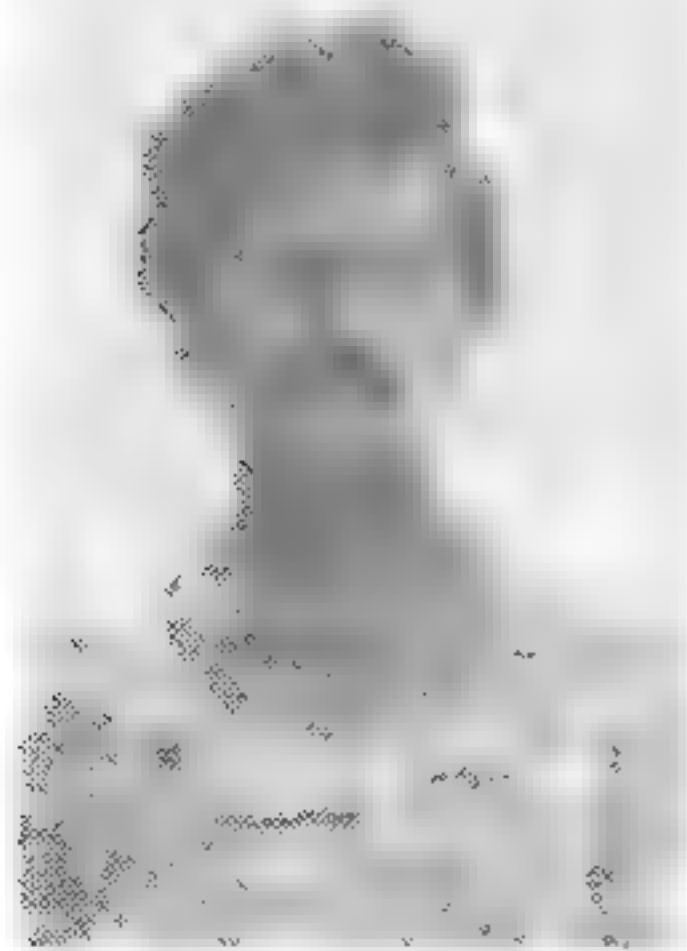
Liet. Col. Pulendran (Dharma Raja)

Liet.Col. Pulendran (Dharma Raja)

Liet. Col. Pulendran (Gunanayakam Dharma Raja) a senior member of the movement, was in charge of LTTE's military training and trained many of our cadres into good warriors.

He played important role in many 'attacks' by the LTTE. In January 1985, when Captain Pandithar's camp at Achuveli was surrounded by more than 500 Sinhala army men, Liet. Col. Pulendran escaped by breaking the army ring. Such a hero lost his life because of the Indo-Sri Lankan accord.

The other 10 heroes who lost their lives because of the betrayal of India, by consuming cyanide, along with kumarappa and Pulendran.



Captain Palani



Reginald



Major Abdullah

Major Abdullah is from South Maratchi and was a sincere and dutiful body-guard to our leader Prabhakaran, for a long-time. Because of his ability, he was given an important place in 'sea tigers' wing of the movement.

Captain Nalan

Captain Nalan is from Point Pedro and was serving in the movement's long distance communications wing, for a long-time. He was much regarded by our leader Prabhakaran for his superfine ability. He was with Prabhakaran discharging many responsible works.

Captain Palani
Captain Raghu
Captain Thavakumar
Mires
Anbazhagan
Anandakumar
Reginald



All these warriors belonged to "Sea-tigers" wing and had the ability to drive the motor-boat under all conditions.

Karan

Karan from Vavuniya was a long-time member of the movement. His younger brother Siddharthan, who was a lieutenant in the movement died in February 1987 in a bomb-blast accident. His elder brother is also in the movement. Karan was married and had two children



Captain Raghu



Karan





Captain Thavakumar



Mires

Printed by Set Line Data Ltd, 164-180
Union Street, SE1



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